



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 18, 2020

Amanda Baillie: County PIO

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520-432-9214

Cochise County Board of Supervisors prioritizes public health and safety in response to COVID-19 emergency

With immediate effect, the Cochise County Board of Supervisors is taking the following actions in recognition and support of Center for Disease Control guidelines to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus and prioritize the provision of public health and safety services during this national state of emergency.

- Non-essential work sessions will be suspended, to include:
 - Annual executive review of County Administrator on March 20
 - Work Session: Visit Southern Arizona on March 24
 - Work Session: Animal Welfare Update on March 24
- Regular Board of Supervisors meetings and business essential meetings will continue as planned. These meetings will remain accessible to the public via virtual technology. Details on how to access these meetings will be posted on the County website at www.cochise.az.gov
- County employees will continue to work full-time at County offices or alternative locations as required to meet public health and safety priorities.
- Members of the public are encouraged to access county services remotely via telephone and internet. Non-essential over-the-counter convenience services are being suspended at many county offices. Citizens who require a County service should call the appropriate department or check the county's website for the latest closure notices.
- Cochise County Superior Court has issued administrative orders limiting hearings and other procedures. For full details visit <https://www.cochise.az.gov/court-administration/cochise-county-superior-court-issues-orders-response-covid-19>
- The County will discontinue the use of Department of Corrections inmate labor until further notice.

In a joint statement, the Board of Supervisors said, "The County's priority is to maintain both public health and public safety services during this national crisis. Our employees will continue to work and provide normal services where possible, but in an environment that ensures the safety of the public and our staff.

In line with other governmental agencies, we will adhere to public health guidelines to help stop the spread of this disease. Our health department and emergency services teams are working continuously with local healthcare providers, first responders, and other agencies, to help with information and resources. We will also continue to provide the general public with timely updates and information from our federal, state, and local partners for the duration of



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this health emergency and we highly encourage residents to look to official and trusted sources of information.”

The County has set up a website dedicated to COVID-19 to keep the public informed at <https://covid-cochisehealth.hub.arcgis.com/>

Regular updates are also posted to the County’s Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CochiseCountyAZ/>

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Cochise County provides regional leadership and effective, high-quality services with personal and professional integrity. Located in the southeast corner of Arizona, Cochise County has natural beauty, world famous history, and a fascinating culture. Covering 6,219 square miles, and with a population of approximately 130,000 people, the County provides vital services to the unincorporated areas of the region. It is home to a diverse range of incorporated cities, including Sierra Vista, Bisbee, Benson, Douglas, Tombstone, Willcox, and Huachuca City. Visit www.cochise.az.gov for more information.

Think you know Cochise County? Think Again! <https://studio.youtube.com/#/video/Ta5yKGZnbZQ>

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